

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1939.

Approved May 3, 1939.

---

CHAPTER 500.

(House Bill 311)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 183 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1924 Edition), title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Fraud—Advertisements", relating to certain advertisements for the sale of real estate.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 183 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1924 Edition), title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Fraud—Advertisements", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

183. Any person, firm, corporation or association, who with intent to sell or in any wise dispose of merchandise, securities, real estate, service, or anything offered by such person, firm, corporation, or association directly or indirectly, to the public for sale or distribution, or with intent to increase the consumption thereof, or to induce the public in any manner to enter into any obligation relating thereto, or to acquire title thereto, or any interest therein, makes, publishes, disseminates, circulates, or places before the public, or causes directly or indirectly to be made, published, disseminated, circulated, or placed before the public in this State, in a newspaper or other publication or in the form of a book, notice, handbill, poster, bill, circular, pamphlet, or letter, or in any other way, an advertisement, of any sort regarding merchandise, securities, real estate, service or anything so offered to the public which advertisement contains any assertion, representation or statement of fact which is untrue, deceptive or misleading, and which is known by such person, firm, corporation or association or which by the exercise of reasonable care should be known by such person, firm or corporation to be untrue, deceptive or misleading, or any person, firm or corporation who causes to be published or distributed in any way whatsoever any advertisement offering to sell leasehold property at a stated price or on terms stating the amount of any installment payments without also stating in such advertisement the amount of the annual ground rent to which the property offered is subject, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor